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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/780,752	02/09/2001	Kirk P. Conrad	CONN-001	6620

24353 7590 09/26/2002

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EXAMINER

LIU, SAMUEL W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1653

DATE MAILED: 09/26/2002

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/780,752

Applicant(s)

CONRAD ET AL.

Examiner

Samuel W Liu

Art Unit

1653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE one MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) none is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Art Unit: 1653

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-19, drawn to methods of treating hypertension, increasing renal function and treating an ischemic condition comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutical composition formulated with relaxin polypeptide, are classified in class 530, subclass 303, class 514, subclass 2, and class 604, subclass 19.
- II. Claims 20-22, drawn to a method of promoting wound healing comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutical composition formulated with relaxin polypeptide, are classified in class 530, subclass 303, class 514, subclass 2, and class 604, subclass 19.
- III. Claims 23-27, drawn to a method of increasing production of an angiogenic cytokine a method of increasing endothelin type B receptor activation and the receptor activation nitric oxide production in an endothelial cell of a blood vessel endothelium comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutical composition formulated with relaxin polypeptide, are classified in class 530, subclass 303 and 316, class 514, subclass 2, class 435, subclass 335, and class 604, subclass 19.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I-III are directed to different and/or distinct methods each from the other, a method of identifying the polypeptide, a method of identifying polynucleotide, a method of identifying an agent which binds to the polypeptide, a method of identifying a therapeutic agent for use in treatment of a pathology, a method of regulating the polypeptide activity, a method of treating a pathological state or a disease, and a method of selecting a modulator for the polypeptide-associated pathology, respectively. Although there are no provisions under the section for "Relationship of Invention" in MPEP 806.05 for inventive groups that are directed to different methods, restriction is deemed to be proper among the methods of Inventions IV-VIII since they constitute distinct inventions comprising methodologies, starting material, objectives,

Art Unit: 1653

technical considerations, ingredients, endpoint or/and treatment outcome. Each method therefore is patentably distinct.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art shown by their different classification, art recognized divergent subject matter, separate search, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel Wei Liu, Ph.D. whose telephone number is 703-306-3483. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday 9:00 -5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Christopher Low can be reached on (703) 308-2923. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-4242 for regular communication and (703) 305-3014 for the after final communication.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center 1600 receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

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KAREN COCHRANE CARLSON, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

September 17, 2002